

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

April 30, 2001

Dr. Keith O. Hodgson
Director, Stanford Synchrotron Radiation
Laboratory
Department of Chemistry
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305

Dear Dr. Hodgson:

Structural genomics is developing into a possible major new initiative in biological research. As you know, the National Institute of General Medical Sciences is funding several pilot projects in structural genomics and the performers include several Department of Energy National Laboratories. The Office of Biological and Environmental Research (BER) within the Office of Science has been instrumental in the support of structural biology as well as in the early funding of structural genomics work.

I am asking the Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee to address the role that BER should continue to play in nurturing the structural genomics activity, and to advise the Office of Science on how BER can contribute to the future development of structural genomics particularly as it transitions past the pilot phase. The Committee should address all elements of structural genomics, including the associated scientific user facilities, technology development, and computational aspects.

Sincerely,

James F. Decker Acting Director Office of Science

